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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Plaintiff(s), No. C09-4127 BZ

v. ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR REMAND

GREGORY A. STRANGER, et al.,)

Defendant(s).

Plaintiff Elizabeth Ross has moved to remand this action to Marin County Superior Court, contending that this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction. Defendants argue that plaintiff's Eleventh Cause of Action, entitled "Violation of State Securities Laws", arises under federal law because it contains the words "which incorporate the Federal Securities Acts and laws." Complaint ¶ 100.

The mere mention of federal securities law does not create federal question jurisdiction. See Merrell Dow

Pharmaceuticals Inc. v. Thompson, 478 U.S. 804, 814 n. 12

(1986) ("the violation of the federal standard as an element of state tort recovery did not fundamentally change the state

tort nature of the action"); Int'l Union of Operating Eng'rs
v. County of Plumas, 559 F.3d 1041 (9th Cir. 2009) (federal
jurisdiction does not arise solely because California has
adopted principles of federal labor law); Rains v. Criterion
Systems, Inc., 80 F.3d 339 (9th Cir. 1996) (mere reference to
Title VII does not convert a state law claim into a federal
claim). Ross's claims are alleged to arise under California
law and any reference in California law to federal law does
not convert her state-law claim to a federal one.

I find no need for argument and the hearing set for
November 18, 2009 is VACATED. IT IS ORDERED that plaintiff's
motion for remand is GRANTED. The Clerk shall transfer the
file to the Marin County Superior Court.

Dated: November 12, 2009

Bernand/Zimmerman

United States Magistrate Judge

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